

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

--FIG. 5 shows another embodiment using a cooling holder 350 having a hollow rectangular cross section. In the case of this embodiment, the cooling holder [[320]]350 surrounds the top, bottom and side surfaces of the laser crystal 310 with the exception of the surfaces in the axial direction. Here, only the bottom surface of the laser crystal 310 is attached to the cooling holder [[320]]350, and the side surfaces and top surface are preferably provided with a gap 360. This is due to the fact that when taking the combination of a titanium sapphire crystal and a copper cooling holder as an example, the thermal conductivity of a titanium sapphire crystal is greater than the thermal conductivity of copper at less than 100 K, so that at the side portions and top portions, the titanium sapphire crystal is basically of a lower temperature than the cooling holder. However, although this depends on the conditions of the vacuum tank, the side portions and top portion of a cooling holder generally have the effect of cutting off radiative heat from the vacuum tank. Additionally, there may be cases in which surfaces other than the bottom surface of the laser crystal are made to contact the cooling holder for the purpose of reinforcing the adhesion.--